

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 06959 091229Z

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ACTION OES-06

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SPOP/OTRA

SUBJECT: VIP POPULATION VISITORS

BEGIN SUMMARY: THE MINISTER OF HEALTH HAS INDIRECTLY SUGGESTED THAT HE WOULD WELCOME A VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES CENTERED ON POPULATION MATTERS. RECOMMENDATION: WE URGE THAT AN INVITATION BE EXTENDED. END SUMMARY

1. AFTER THE COMPLETION OF USAID'S MONTHLY POPULATION REVIEW MEETING WITH SECRETARY OF POPULATION BADRUDDIN ZAHIDI, THE AID DIRECTOR WAS ASKED TO STAY BEHIND. THE SECRETARY THEN INDICATED THAT THE MINISTER OF LABOR, MANPOWER, HEALTH AND POPULATION PLANNING, MIR TAJ MOHAMMED KHAN JAMALI, WOULD WELCOME AN INVITATION TO VISIT THE UNITED STATES. THE SECRETARY WENT ON TO SUGGEST THAT INVITATIONS MIGHT ALSO BE PROFFERED TO THE MINISTER OF STATE OF HEALTH AND POPULATION PLANNING, CHAUDHRI JAHANGIR ALI, AND TO THE SECRETARY HIMSELF. HE NOTED THAT IT WOULD, OF COURSE, BE IMPROPER FOR THE GOVERNMENT TO INITIATE SUCH A REQUEST. HE SAID THE MINISTER WOULD LIKE VERY MUCH TO VISIT LONDON ENROUTE FOR DISCUSSIONS WITH IPPF. IN THE UNITED STATES WE BELIEVE HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT UNFPA, THE POPULATION COUNCIL AND THE POP-
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PAGE 02 ISLAMA 06959 091229Z

ULATION CRISIS COMMITTEE. IN WASHINGTON HE WOULD DOUBTLESS WISH

TO VISIT THE DEPARTMENT AND AID ALONG WITH OTHER FACILITIES WHICH MIGHT BE SUGGESTED. A VISIT WITH SELECTED MEMBERS OF CONGRESS WOULD CERTAINLY BE IN ORDER. MINISTER JAMALI IS THE BALUCHISTAN REPRESENTATIVE IN THE CABINET. HE BECAME MINISTER ON FEBRUARY 5, 1976, AND HAS TURNED OUT TO BE A SERIOUS AND CONSCIENTIOUS THOUGH QUIET AND RELATIVELY SELF-EFFACING MEMBER OF THE CABINET.

2. WE HAVE PUZZLED AS TO HOW TO HANDLE THE SUGGESTION SINCE IN OUR OPINION IT WOULD BE EVEN MORE BENEFICIAL FOR THESE THREE INDIVIDUALS TO VISIT EFFECTIVE POPULATION PROGRAMS IN THE LDC'S. KOREA, INDONESIA AND THAILAND COME TO MIND. AT THE SAME TIME WE RECOGNIZE THAT A VISIT TO THE UNITED STATES COULD HAVE BENEFICIAL RESULTS FOR OUR POPULATION INTERESTS THROUGH THE GENERATION OF MORE KNOWLEDGE AND COMMITMENT GROWING OUT OF DISCUSSIONS WITH PERSONS HEAVILY SUPPORTIVE OF POPULATION EFFORTS. ON BALANCE WE SEE THIS AS AN OPPORTUNITY TO ADVANCE OUR POPULATION EFFORTS AND SUGGEST THAT THE DEPARTMENT CONSIDER PROFFERING AN INVITATION NOT ONLY TO VISIT THE UNITES STATES (AND LONDON ENROUTE) BUT ALSO TO OFFER GOOD OFFICES WITH ONE OR TWO OTHER COUNTIES TO GIVE THE VISITORS A VIEW OF OPERATING PROGRAMS IN LDC'S.

3. IN THE PAST IT HAS BEEN OUR EXPERIENCE THAT THE GOVERNMENT PREFERS TO FINANCE MINISTERS TRAVEL BUT IS HAPPY TO ACCEPT FINANCING FOR SECRETARIES. PROCEDURALLY WE SUGGEST THAT IF THE DEPARTMENT DECIDES THAT AN INVITATION IS IN ORDER WE PROFFER THE INVITATION WITHOUT REFERENCE TO FUNDING BUT BE PREPARED TO HANDLE THE FINANCING FROM OUR IQ EXPANDED POPULATION PROGRAM ALLOTMENT. WE CAN THEN NEGOTIATE THIS LOCALLY.

4. ACTION RECOMMENDED: THAT THE COORDINATOR FOR POPULATION AFFAIRS REVIEW THE POSSIBLE INVITATION WITH AID AND CU, AUTHORIZING THE MISSION TO INVITE THESE THREE INDIVIDUALS TO VISIT THE UNITES STATES AND ONE OR TWO LDC'S SUBJECT TO APPROPRIATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH THOSE COUNTRIES. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR TENTATIVE SUGGESTIONS FOR A U.S. ITINERARY AND LDC COUNTRY VISITS.
BYROAGE

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